



GOLBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

INTERIM REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR
THE YEAR 1941

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Peter Herbert Heaton	"
James Joseph Richards	"
Charles Thomas Naylor	Heath
Evelyn Prescott, J.P.	"
Leonard Ball, C.C.	"
Robert Barrow, J.P., C.A.	St. Thomas
Richard Wilde	"
James Hewitt	"
Robert Allen, J.P.	Culcheth
William Broadhurst	"
Edward Lealan Law	"
Harry Oughton	Lowton
John Dean Speakman	"
Thomas Jackson	"
Alfred Henry Green, J.P.	Kenyon
James Rigby	"
James Albert Nelson	"

O F F I C I A L S

Clerk	-	Mr. H. Eckersley
Medical Officer of Health	-	Dr. S.K. Appleton
Surveyor	-	Mr. A. Clough
Sanitary Inspector	-	Mr. J. Monks
Rating Officer	-	Mr. F. Martland
Accountant	-	Mr. A.L. Hughes

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Lowton.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Urban District Council of Golborne.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you a brief interim report on the health of the District during 1941.

It is considered inadvisable on the grounds of national security, to publish population figures and certain other statistics. Therefore, the statistics appear incomplete but accurate figures are kept on record for the post-war comprehensive report.

The pressure of work in connection with the Civil Defence Services has been maintained during the year and although various normal Public Health activities have been curtailed, the essential work affecting the Health and Welfare of the District has received as much attention as possible.

No important effects of the War on the health of the community was apparent during the year. The general health of the inhabitants has been satisfactory and there was a great reduction in the number of cases of notifiable diseases, largely due to a marked decrease in measles, whooping cough and scarlet fever, in comparison with 1940.

The only notifiable disease to show an increase was diphtheria which, although high, was below the average for the last five years. The effect of immunisation against diphtheria carried out during the year will probably become apparent in 1942 but far too many parents are still unresponsive to the opportunity of free protection for their children.

No person in H.M. Forces has been notified as suffering from infectious disease.

The Scabies Order, 1941, gives the Medical Officer of Health powers to deal with cases of scabies but unfortunately there are no facilities in the District for the necessary treatment.

It is to be regretted that the War has caused delay in the completion of the Lowton and Culcheth Sewerage Scheme.

Difficulties in obtaining material and labour have had an adverse influence on the carrying out of any extensive housing work and it has only been possible to deal with urgent and essential repairs.

I wish to thank the members of the Health and Maternity & Child Welfare Committees for their encouragement and support, and my staff, Council Officials and the Voluntary Committees for their co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

S.K. APPLETON.

Medical Officer of Health.

Statistics

Area in acres -
 Population: Census 1931 -
 Registrar General's estimate, 1940 -
 Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931) -
 End of year, 1941 according to Rate Books -
 Rateable Value - £59,275.
 Last year - £58,872.
 Sum represented by the penny rate - £226. gross.
 Last year - £216.

Deaths notified were 136 (68 females and 68 males) compared with 156 last year, a decrease of 20.

The Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population =
Transferable Deaths included in the above figures were 39.

The following is a list of places in which Residents died outside the district:-

Royal Infirmary, Manchester	-	1
Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool	-	1
Ashton-under-Lyne	-	1
Public Assistance Hospital, Atherton	-	14
Leigh Infirmary	-	6
Astley Sanatorium	-	3
Christopher Nursing Home, Wigan	-	1
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan	-	7
County Mental Hospital, Whiston	-	1
Borough General Hospital, Warrington	-	1
154, Upholland Road, Billinge	-	1
Warrington R.D.C.	-	1
Christie Hospital, Manchester	-	1

Deaths from Compulsory Notifiable Diseases.

Diphtheria	-	1
Pneumonia	-	7
Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	8
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	2

Deaths from Cancer.

	Males	Females	Totals
Golborne	4	0	4
Lowton	2	3	5
Culcheth	3	0	3
Kenyon	0	0	0
			12

Deaths by Accident.

	Males	Females	Totals
	5	3	8

	Males	Females	Totals
	9	4	13

Death rate per 1,000 live and still births =
Deaths from Measles - Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough - Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) - Nil
Deaths from Puerperal Pyrexia - Nil.

Births notified - 206. Crude birth rate equals _____ of the estimated population.

58 of these took place in Maternity Homes.

Sill births - 8

Infectious Disease.

Diphtheria was again prevalent throughout the year. 32 cases were notified, 15 in the first half year and 17 in the latter part. 26 were school children, 4 pre-school children and 2 over school age. A few of the cases were of the virulent type but chiefly the cases were quite mild. There was one death from Diphtheria; medical attention was sought so late that the case was hopeless and the child died before he could be removed to hospital.

All cases were removed to hospital. Usually notification is by telephone in the first instance. This facilitates the use of Anti-Toxin whilst in hospital.

Scarlet Fever. 12 cases were notified, 7 were school children and 5 pre-school children. There were no deaths from Scarlet Fever.

<u>Infectious Disease</u>	No. of cases	Under 5 years of age	Over 5 years of age	Removed to hospital
Scarlet Fever	12	10	2	8
Diphtheria	32	22	10	32
Para-Typhoid Fever	1	-	1	1
Erysipelas	6	-	6	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	7	7	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	5	3	2	5
Poliomyelitis	1	-	1	-
Pneumonia - Acute and Influenzal	5	4	1	-
Whooping Cough	29	28	1	-
Measles	21	18	3	-
Other diseases. Tonsilitis	3	2	1	3
	122	94	28	51

Number of cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever, 5 years commencing:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Diphtheria</u>	<u>Scarlet Fever</u>
1937	19	45
1938	70	23
1939	53	25
1940	18	49
1941	32	12

Average case rates per 1,000 of the estimated population for the 5 years commencing:-

1936 to 1941 - Diphtheria -

Scarlet Fever -

Disinfection. Rooms, bedding and other articles are disinfected by Formic Aldehyde Fumigation.

No steam disinfecter is available for disinfection or disinfestation. Number of rooms and their contents disinfected - 112.

Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Disease.

The Astley Sanatorium, Tyldesley, under the control of Leigh Joint Hospital Board, of which the Golborne Urban District Council is a constituent Authority.

Small Pox - Astley Sanatorium - Number of beds as required.

For other infectious diseases - Astley Sanatorium, Tyldesley.
Number of beds available - as required.

Ambulance Facilities.

Accident and non-infectious cases - Motor Ambulance owned by the Council.

Infectious Disease - Motor Ambulance provided by the Leigh Joint Hospital Board.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations.

Diphtheria - 55 Swabs were examined, 10 were positive.
Other diseases - None.

Diphtheria Antitoxin.

Supplies are available at the Council Offices, Lowton, and at the Sub-Council Offices, Worsley Street, Golborne.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation against diphtheria was begun in Golborne Wards on the 11th January, in Lowton on the 21st January, and in Culcheth on the 30th January, 1941. The children residing in Kenyon attended the Lowton and Culcheth Sessions.

Children have been treated using the two injections method with Alum Precipitated Toxoid.

The following table shows the percentage of children treated in each of the schools:-

DIPHThERIA IMMUNISATION - YEAR 1941.

School		No. of children	No. of children immunised	Percent-age.
Golborne Council	(Infants)	203	107	52.70%
	(Juniors)	269	168	62.45%
	(Seniors)	241	108	44.81%
Golborne R.C.	(Infants)	114	72	63.15%
	(Mixed)	188	114	60.63%
Golborne Parochial	(Infants)	80	33	41.25%
	(Mixed)	98	46	46.93%
Lowton C.of E.	(Infants)	50	41	82%
	(Mixed)	131	82	44.89%
Lowton St. Mary's	(Infants)	71	28	39.43%
	(Mixed)	108	40	37.03%
Lowton Council	(Infants)	61	32	52.45%
	(Mixed)	105	49	46.66%
Culcheth Council	(Infants)	128	76	59.37%
	(Juniors)	196	32	16.32%
	(Seniors)			
Glazebury C.of E.	(Mixed)	77	48	62.32%
Children under School Age		2120	1076	50.75%
		705 (Estd.)	241	34.18%
		2825	1317	46.66%

Tuberculosis.

This service is under the control of the Lancashire County Council. The area dispensary is situated at 13, Church Street, Leigh, and is open on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. and the second Thursday in each month at 6.30 p.m.

Number of Cases Notified.	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Golborne	5	3	2	4	14
Lowton	0	3	0	1	4
Culcheth	0	0	0	0	0
Kenyon	0	0	0	0	0
	5	6	2	5	18

Deaths.

Golborne	4	2	0	2	8
Lowton	0	0	0	0	0
Culcheth	0	2	0	0	2
Kenyon	0	0	0	0	0
	4	4	0	2	10

Removed from Register.

Diagnosis not confirmed	0	0	0	1	1
Disease arrested	0	2	1	1	4
	0	2	1	2	5

Number of cases on Register
at 31st December, 1941.

Golborne	6	8	4	15	33
Lowton	0	4	4	7	15
Culcheth	1	4	1	0	6
Kenyon	0	1	0	0	1
	7	17	9	22	55

Inspection of Foods.

As the War measure of the slaughtering of animals in a central slaughter house outside the area of the Golborne Urban District Council still exists, no animal carcases, parts or organs have been condemned during the year.

The following other foods were inspected and condemned as being unfit for human food:-

487	Eggs
5½ lbs.	Tinned Meat
3 "	Cheese
6 "	Tinned Milk
2 "	" Mackerel
3 "	" Hot Pot
2½ "	" Carrots
2 "	" Mixed Vegetables
1232 "	Peach Pulp

Milk.

The Cowsheds and Dairies are inspected as frequently as possible. The general standard is good.

Two supplementary licences have been issued to retail Pasteurised Milk.

Producers on the register	- 38
Accredited Milk producers	- 4
Retail Milk Purveyors (other than Producers)	20
Wholesale Milk Purveyors	- 6
Inspections during the year	- 84

Defects dealt with - Limewashing 10, Drainage, 7,
Light 3, Other defects 5 -
Total 25.

Samples of Milk are taken and submitted for examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester. The number of samples submitted during 1941 is rather low, this has been chiefly due to the shortage of guinea-pigs at the Laboratory.

Number of samples taken.

Culcheth Council School	- 4
Producers and Retailers	- 16
Total	<u>20</u>
Positive Samples	- 1
Negative "	- 19

Bakehouses.

Number of Bakehouses on the register	- 15
Number of inspections	- 43

Defects found and dealt with - Limewashing 5, Defective floors 2, Drainage 1, Insufficient light in sanitary convenience 4, - Total 13.

The structural conditions of the bakehouses are good.

Other places where food is prepared or stored.

Number on registers	- 33
Number of inspections	- 56

Defects found and dealt with - Limewashing 9, Cleansing of Vehicles 6, Roofs 4, - Total 19.

Water Supply.

Excessive deposits of lime was considered.

Samples of Water examined - 1.
Result - Satisfactory.

Number of houses supplied from wells - 3.

There were no extensions of water mains during the year.

Rivers & Streams.

Pollutions with sewage occurred at the Millingford Brook and Dean Dam Brook. The cause of the pollution was investigated. With regard to the Millingford Brook, it was found that subsidence had caused disturbance of the sewers and sewage was flowing

into the brook in the Ashton-in-Makerfield Area. This matter was reported to the Chief Inspector of the Lancashire Rivers Board and the Ashton-in-Makerfield District Council.

The Dean Dam Brook was found to be polluted with sewage from a small sewerage works in the area of the Haydock District Council, who were notified of the pollution. Both streams have been partially cleaned out.

Housing.

New houses completed during the year	-	6
" " built by Local Authority	-	0
" " " by other bodies or persons	-	0
Houses found unfit for human habitation	-	2
Houses not to be in all respects fit for habitation	-	8
Houses rendered fit	-	7
Houses demolished	-	0

Defects or Nuisances discovered and dealt with.

Defective drains	-	60
" Water Closets	-	36
" Privies and Ashpits	-	9
" Pail Closets	-	2
" Slopstones and Pipes	-	27
" Pavements	-	10
" Spouts	-	18
" Windows	-	23
" Floors	-	9
" Roofs	-	66
Dampness	-	40
Dustbins	-	35
Other defects	-	60
Privy Middens converted to Fresh Water Closets	-	1
Total		396

Summary of Inspections.

Dwelling houses under Public Health and Housing Acts	-	1016
Bakehouses	-	43
Slaughter Houses	-	32
Other places where food is prepared or stored	-	56
Travelling Vans	-	10
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	-	84
Factories	-	41
Schools	-	14
Farms where pigs are kept	-	112
Other inspections not included above	-	101
		1509
Number of informed notices served	-	247
" " Statutory " "	-	45
Legal proceedings	-	0

Factories.

Number of factories on the register in which Mechanical Power is used	-	
Number of factories on the register in which Mechanical Power is not used.	-	
Number of inspections	-	41

Defects found:-

Insufficient light in sanitary conveniences	-	5
Approaches to sanitary conveniences	-	4
Fire escapes	-	2
Limewashing	-	6

Maternity & Child Welfare.

The Maternity & Child Welfare work is carried out by the Local Authority and is conducted by the Medical Officer of Health.

All mothers, and children under 5 years of age, or expectant mothers may attend the Child Welfare Centres.

There is one Health Visitor who visits all infants and nursing mothers at least monthly, and other children under 5 years of age as often as possible.

Arrangements have been made with Dr. Dougal of Manchester as consultant to whom cases are referred if necessary.

The Child Welfare Centres are held at:-

Independent Methodist School, High Street, Golborne, alternate Thursdays at 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

Methodist School, Newton Road, Lowton, alternate Thursdays at 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

British Legion Club Room, Common Lane, Culcheth, alternate Tuesdays at 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

No Ante-Natal Clinic is established.

The following Maternity Homes are available for the reception of expectant mothers and young children:-

Warrington County Borough Maternity Homes, by agreement.
St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, by arrangement.
The Tirs Maternity Home, Leigh - the number of beds available, as required.

Hospital arrangements for Ante-Natal and Post-Natal conditions are adequate.

Arrangements for Orthopaedic treatment have been made with the Lancashire County Council at the Ashton-in-Makerfield Clinic and Liverpool and Heswall Hospitals.

Cases of Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia and Ophthalmia Neonatorum can be admitted to Astley Sanatorium or the Warrington County Borough Hospitals.

Live births	-	198
Still births	-	8
		206
		206

Notified by Midwives	-	206
" by Doctors	-	
or parents	-	0

Number of Health Visitors - 1

Number of visits to children under 1 year of age:-

First visits	-	230
Total visits	-	1570
To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	-	1840
Total visits	-	3640
		3640

Number of Child Welfare Centres	-	5
Ante-Natal Clinics provided by the Council	-	0
Number of children who first attended the Child Welfare Centres who were under 1 year of age	-	163
Between the ages of 1 and 5 years of age	-	30
Number of children under 5 years of age who attended the Centres and who at the end of the year were:-		
Under 1 year of age	-	130
Over 1 year of age	-	225

Infectious Disease.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	7
Removed to Hospital	-	0
Vision impaired	-	0
Measles in children under 5 years of age	-	15
Whooping Cough in children under 5 years of age	-	24
Total		46

Milk and Food supplied to expectant and nursing mothers, and Children.

No milk has been supplied otherwise than under the National Milk Scheme. Under this scheme expectant and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age can obtain a supply of milk either free or at a cheap rate.

The following milk was supplied during the year:-

Number of persons supplied with Free Milk	-	170
Number of persons supplied with Cheap Milk	-	700

Issue of Coupons for Baby Clothing.

Under this Scheme an expectant mother may make application to be supplied with additional clothing coupons. Applicants must produce a medical certificate of pregnancy and are then entitled to an allowance of 50 clothing coupons for baby clothes.

This scheme came into operation on 5th August, 1941. From that date to the 31st December, 1941, additional clothing coupons have been issued to 120 persons.

Supplementary Vitamins.

The free issue of fruit juices to children under two years of age and of cod liver oil to all children under five years began early in December and a high percentage of parents have taken advantage of the Scheme.

